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CHILDREN AT CALVARY:

BEING

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS,

IN METRE FOR SINGING.

"Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings Thou hast perfected praise."—S. MATT. xxi. 16.

LONDON:
G. J. PALMER, 32, LITTLE QUEEN STREET,
LINCOLN'S-INN FIELDS.
1872.

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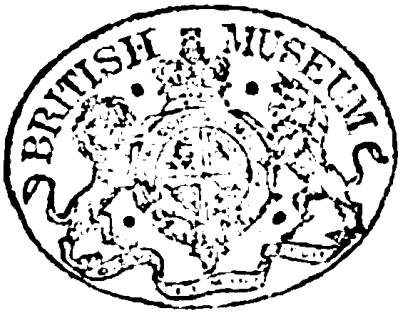

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PREFACE.

THESE simple rimes are put forth by the Compiler of "The Children's Bread," in hopes that they may teach some of the little ones of Christ's flock to follow their Shepherd, even when He calls them to suffer with Him.

R. F. L.

Septuagesima, 1872.

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CHILDREN AT CALVARY.

In the Name of God the Father,
In the Name of God the ✠ Son,
In the Name of God the Spirit,
Ever Three and ever One. Amen.

O Jesu, Lord, to track Thy way
Upon Thy bitter Passion's day,
From Pilate's judgment to the tomb,
We, Thine own little ones, are come,
And pray that we, with loving tread,
May follow Thee where Thou hast led.

℣. Open Thou our lips, O Lord :
℟. And our mouths Thy praise shall show ;
℣. God, make speed to be our ward ;
℟. Lord, make haste against the foe.

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℣. Thee, CHRIST, we worship and adore,
We bless Thy Name for evermore;
℟. Because by Thy most holy Cross,
Thou hast redeemed the world from loss.

First Station.

JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH.

Reader. See, at Pilate's judgment-seat,
JESUS stands with weary feet,
Innocent, is doomed to die,
Hears the shout of "Crucify!"

Children. O my SAVIOUR, O my King,
I have done this evil thing;
Mine the sins which JESUS slay,
Spare me in the Judgment-day.

All. Holy GOD, O Holy Might,
Holy Immortal, Infinite,
Victor o'er the Cross and grave,
Save, O LORD, in mercy save.

Act of Contrition.

O LORD, I mourn that I have turned
In sin away from Thee;
Let not my cry for help be spurned,
But come and set me free.

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Our FATHER (*in monotone, or else may be sung as follows:*)

Our FATHER in the heavens,
All-holy be Thy Name;
Thy kingdom come with glory;
Thy will be done, the same
On earth as in the heavens;
Give unto us to-day
The bread we live by daily:
Forgive our sins, we pray,
As we forgive our debtors;
And lead us not, we crave,
Where we may meet temptation,
But from all evil save. Amen.

Hail, O Mary, full of grace,
Thou, the LORD'S own dwelling-place,
Blest among all women mild:
Blest is JESUS CHRIST thy Child. Amen.

Glory to the FATHER, SON,
And the SPIRIT, Three in One,
As it was in times of yore,
Is, and shall be evermore. Amen.

℣. Have mercy on us, LORD Most High,
℟. Have mercy on us as we cry.
℣. Grant faithful souls both peace and rest,
℟. Among the spirits of the blest. Amen.

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Second Station.

THE CROSS IS LAID ON JESUS.

℣. Thee, CHRIST, &c.
℟. Because, &c. } *as on p.* 6.

Reader. See, the heavy Cross is laid
On the LORD Who all things made:
Isaac, before our eyes,
Bears the wood of sacrifice.

Children. O my SAVIOUR, make me bear
Joyfully both pain and care,
And not seek to lay them down,
Till the Cross hath won the Crown.

Holy GOD, &c., *as on p.* 6.

The Act of Contrition, Our FATHER, *Hail, O Mary, Glory, Have mercy, are repeated here, and at the end of each Station.*

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Third Station.

JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME.

℣. Thee, CHRIST, &c.

Reader. See, amidst the jeering crowd,
JESUS, weary, faint, and bowed
Underneath the Cross's load,
Falls upon the stony road.

Children. JESU, when by sin I fall,
Hearken, SAVIOUR, to my call,
From my burden set me free,
Lift me up, dear LORD, to Thee.
Holy GOD, &c.

Fourth Station.

JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER.

℣. Thee, CHRIST, &c.

Reader. Still pass on the bleeding feet,
JESUS and His Mother meet;
And the sword, with bitter smart,
Pierces through her loving heart.

Children. Let us, with the Mother-Maid,
Bear the woe on JESUS laid,
Let us, like her glorious SON,
End the good work once begun.
Holy GOD, &c.

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Fifth Station.

SIMON OF CYRENE IS MADE TO BEAR THE CROSS.

℣. Thee, CHRIST, &c.

Reader. Simon, forced to bear the Tree,
JESU, LORD, instead of Thee,
Treads, unwillingly, the road,
Bearing thus another's load.

Children. JESU, let us gladly take
Up the Cross for Thy dear sake;
One another's burdens bear,
One another's sorrows share.

Holy GOD, &c.

Sixth Station.

S. VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS.

℣. Thee, CHRIST, &c.

Reader. See, a woman moved with grief,
Strives to give her LORD relief,
Wipes away the sweat and gore
From the Face which we adore.

Children. Teach us, LORD, with words that cheer,
From sad eyes to wipe the tear;
Let us see Thee in Thy poor,
Let us help them to endure.

Holy GOD, &c.

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Seventh Station.

JESUS FALLS THE SECOND TIME.

℣. Thee, CHRIST, &c.

Reader. Bearing still the heavy Rood,
Weary, weak with loss of blood,
On His bitter path, again,
JESUS faints beneath the pain.

Children. JESU, look in pity soft
Upon us, who fall so oft,
Give us strength at last to beat
Satan down beneath our feet.

Holy GOD, &c.

Eighth Station.

JESUS MEETS THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM.

℣. Thee, CHRIST, &c.

Reader. With the crowds, but not of them,
Daughters of Jerusalem
Near their dearest Master throng,
Weeping as He moves along.

Children. Teach me, LORD, in sorrow deep,
For Thee and myself to weep:
Weep for Thee, in all Thy woe,
For myself, who pierced Thee so.

Holy GOD, &c.

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Ninth Station.

JESUS FALLS THE THIRD TIME.

℣. Thee, CHRIST, &c.

Reader. For the third, last time of all,
See the Holy Sufferer fall :
See Him rise with loving mind,
Bearing all to save mankind.

Children. Make me say, O Master wise,
" When I fall, I shall arise :"
Help me ever on to wend
Where all sin is at an end.

Holy GOD, &c.

Tenth Station.

JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS.

℣. Thee, CHRIST, &c.

Reader. See, amidst His cruel foes,
JESUS, stripped of all His clothes :
See them mock His thirst, and call
For the vinegar and gall.

Children. With Thine innocence for dress,
JESU, clothe my nakedness ;
Give me, though in merit least,
Sweetness at Thy marriage-feast.

Holy GOD, &c.

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Eleventh Station.

JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS.

℣. Thee, CHRIST, &c.

Reader. See, with nails, one, two, and three,
Fast they nail Him to the Tree;
He, thus lifted on His throne,
Draws all men to Him alone.

Children. Crucify us, LORD, to sin,
Pierce our hearts with fear within,
Draw us close to Thee in love,
Lift us to Thy throne above.
Holy GOD, &c.

Twelfth Station.

JESUS GIVES UP THE GHOST.

℣. Thee, CHRIST, &c.

Reader. As His latest words are said,
See Him bow His kingly head:
See Him in the hour of death,
Patiently yield up His breath.

Children. When the time comes that I must,
Dust of earth, return to dust,
Let me, trustful at the end,
Unto CHRIST my soul commend.
Holy GOD, &c.

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Thirteenth Station.

JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS.

℣. Thee, CHRIST, &c.

Reader. See Him from the Cross ta'en down,
With pierced side and thorny crown;
See Him laid once more to rest
On His Virgin Mother's breast.

Children. LORD, Who until eventide
Wast from noonday crucified;
Grant us, when our strife is past,
With Thy Mother rest at last.

Holy GOD, &c.

Fourteenth Station.

JESUS IS LAID IN THE GRAVE.

℣. Thee, CHRIST, &c.

Reader. See Him in fine linen wound,
Myrrh and aloes strewed around;
In the darkness and the gloom,
Laid in Joseph's new-made tomb.

Children. Teach us, LORD, with Thee to die,
All our sins to mortify;
White and clean then let us be,
Fragrant offerings unto Thee.

Holy GOD, &c.

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HYMN XC.

By the Cross, sad vigil keeping,
Stood the doleful Mother weeping
Where her Son extended hung;
For her soul, of joy bereavéd,
Smit with anguish, deeply grievéd,
Lo! the piercing sword had wrung.

O how sad and sore distresséd,
Nor was she, that Mother Blesséd
Of the Sole-Begotten One!
Woe-begone, with heart's prostration,
Mother meek, the bitter Passion
Saw she of her glorious Son.

Who, on CHRIST'S fond Mother looking,
Such extreme affliction brooking,
Born of women, would not weep?
Who, on CHRIST'S fond Mother thinking,
With her Son in sorrow sinking,
Would not share her sorrow deep?

For His people's sins rejected,
She her JESUS unprotected
Saw with thorns, with scourges rent;
Saw her Son from judgment taken,
Her Beloved in death forsaken,
Till His Spirit forth He sent.

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With Thy Mother's deep devotion,
Make me feel her strong emotion,
Fount of Love, Redeemer kind:
That my heart, fresh ardour proving,
Thee my GOD and SAVIOUR loving,
May with Thee acceptance find.—Amen.

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